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PROPERTIES OF PHOTODETECTORS

PHOTODETECTOR SERIES, 51ST REPORT

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FOREWORD

This report, which was prepared as part of the Joint Services Infrared Sensitive Element Testing Program, is one of a series that consists of a collection of data sheets presenting various physical properties of photodetectors. The work reported here was performed from January to May 1962. It was authorized by WepTask RMGA-41-049/211-1/R008-03-002 and covered by the following funds:

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INTRODUCTION

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This report presents the results of measurements made on twelve photodetectors. It includes data sheets on lead selenide cells from the Eastman Kodak Company and the Santa Barbara Research Center; indium antimonide cells from the Philco Corporation; a Golay detector cell from the Eppley Laboratory, Inc.; and a thermocouple cell from the Perkin Elmer Corporation.

It will be noted that tests conducted on the Golay detector and the thermocouple cells deviated from the normal procedure in that the blackbody response was measured at 500, 10 rather than the usual 500, 90.

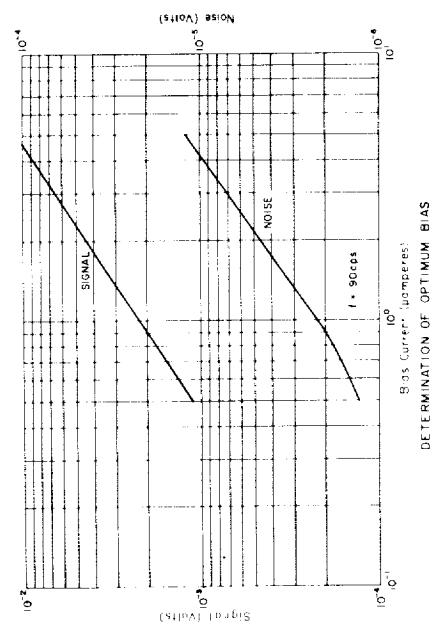
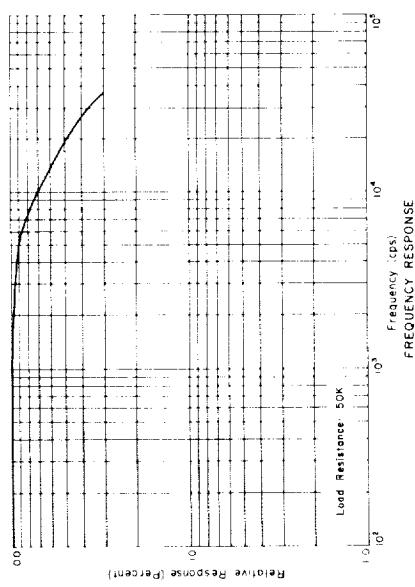
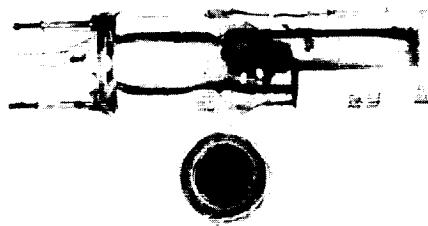
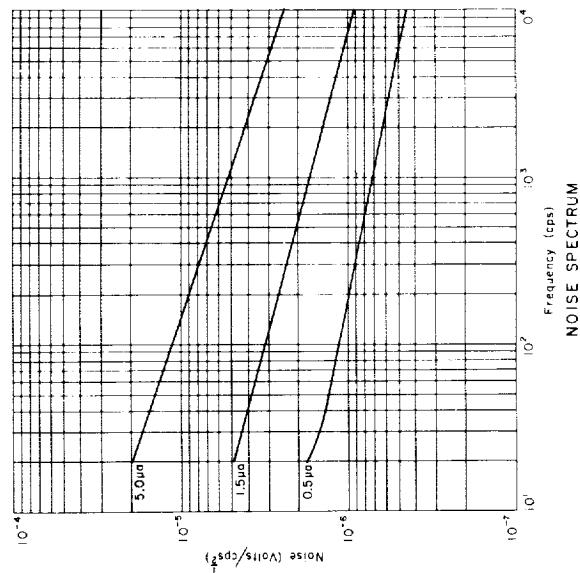
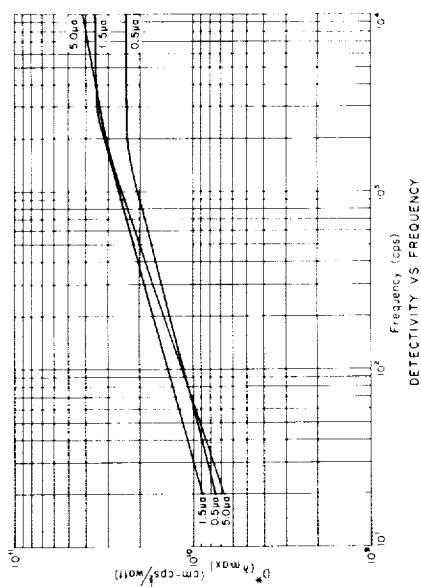
A summary of the data obtained is given in Table 1.

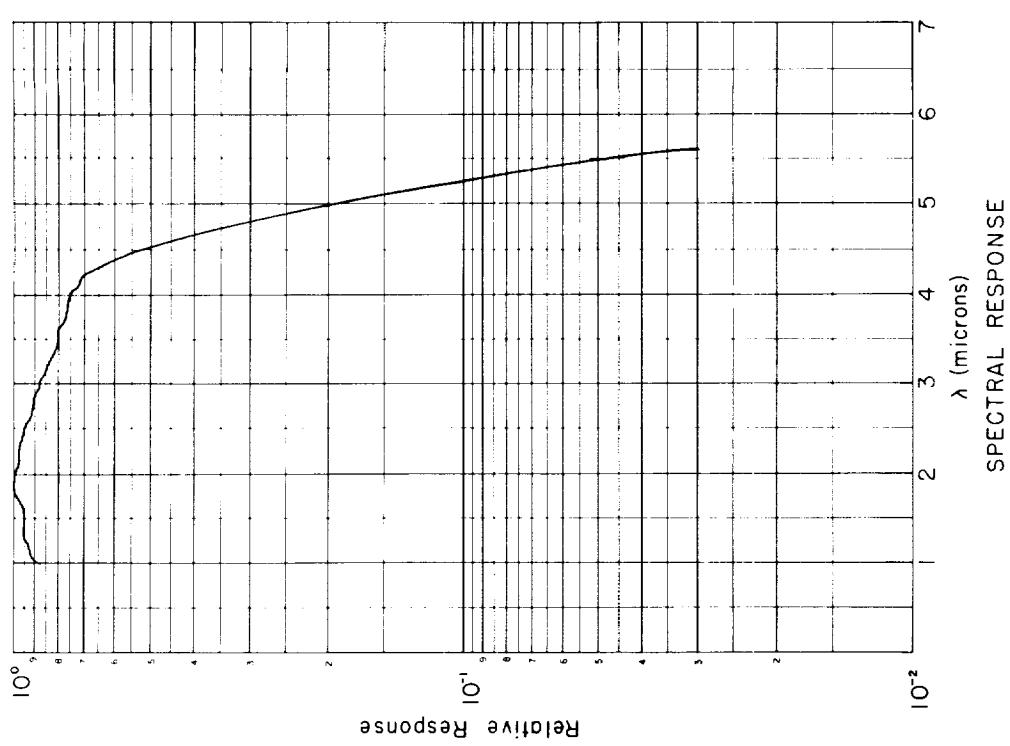
TABLE I. Summary of Data

Data sheet No.	Cell type	Cell No. ¹	Area (cm ²)	Cell temp. (K)	Blackbody response (500, 90)			$\frac{R_{\lambda_{\max}}}{R_{bb}}$	Peak wavelength (μ)	Peak detective modulation frequency (cps)	$D^* \text{ mm} \left(\frac{\text{cm} \cdot \text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\text{watt}} \right)$
					R, responsivity (volts/watt)	H _N noise equivalent power (watts) (cps ² · cm ²)	P _N noise equivalent power (watts) (cps ² · cm ²)				
733	PbSe (evaporated)	EK 1621-19	6.3 × 10 ⁻³	193	6.0 × 10 ⁻⁴	9.3 × 10 ⁻⁹	5.8 × 10 ⁻¹¹	1.4 × 10 ⁹	16	9.3	2.0
734	PbSe (evaporated)	EK 1621-30	6.3 × 10 ⁻³	197	4.6 × 10 ⁻⁴	5.9 × 10 ⁻⁹	3.7 × 10 ⁻¹¹	2.1 × 10 ⁹	28	9.1	2.2
735	PbSe (evaporated)	EK 1621-48	6.3 × 10 ⁻³	197	4.1 × 10 ⁻⁴	8.8 × 10 ⁻⁹	5.6 × 10 ⁻¹¹	1.4 × 10 ⁹	26	9.1	2.2
736	PbSe (chemical)	SBRC JW1278A-36	6.3 × 10 ⁻⁴	78	1.8 × 10 ⁶	6.0 × 10 ⁻⁹	3.8 × 10 ⁻¹²	6.6 × 10 ⁹	42	3.9	4.1
737	PbSe (chemical)	SBRC JW1295-7	6.3 × 10 ⁻²	76	1.3 × 10 ⁵	6.2 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	3.9 × 10 ⁻¹¹	6.4 × 10 ⁹	1.4 × 10 ²	4.1	4.1
738	PbSe (chemical)	SBRC 4002-5-10	6.3 × 10 ⁻²	78	2.4 × 10 ⁵	5.4 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	3.3 × 10 ⁻¹¹	7.5 × 10 ⁹	84	4.1	4.3
739	PbSe (chemical)	SBRC 4002-5-13	6.3 × 10 ⁻²	78	2.5 × 10 ⁵	5.5 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	3.4 × 10 ⁻¹¹	7.3 × 10 ⁹	85	3.9	4.0
740	PbSe (chemical)	SBRC 4002-11-31	6.3 × 10 ⁻⁴	78	5.8 × 10 ⁵	9.7 × 10 ⁻⁹	6.0 × 10 ⁻¹²	4.2 × 10 ⁹	72	4.4	4.3
741	InSb (crystal)	PC [1]	5.5 × 10 ⁻²	78	6.3 × 10 ³	4.7 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	2.6 × 10 ⁻¹¹	9.1 × 10 ⁹	39	5.3	4.8
742	InSb (crystal)	PC [2]	3.5 × 10 ⁻²	78	8.4 × 10 ³	5.7 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	2.0 × 10 ⁻¹¹	9.3 × 10 ⁹	57	5.3	4.8
743	Golay detector (pneumatic)	EL 786	7.1 × 10 ⁻¹	297	1.5 × 10 ² †	1.5 × 10 ⁻⁸ †	1.1 × 10 ⁻⁸ †	7.7 × 10 ⁷ †	5.7 × 10 ³	16	0.8
744	Thermocouple	PE 9770	4 × 10 ⁻³	297	3.0†	4.5 × 10 ⁻⁸ †	1.8 × 10 ⁻¹⁰ †	3.5 × 10 ⁸ †	1.9 × 10 ⁴	1.2	1.0

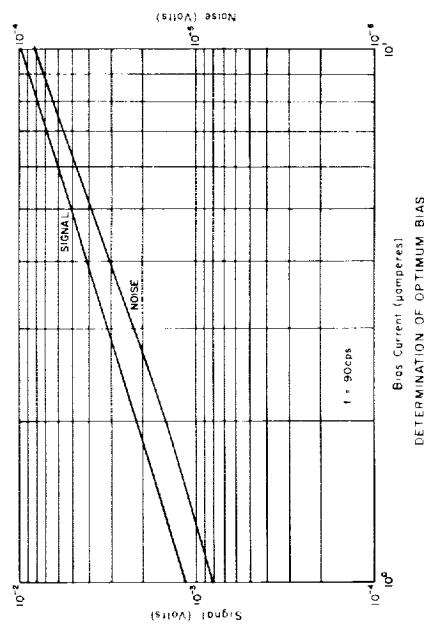
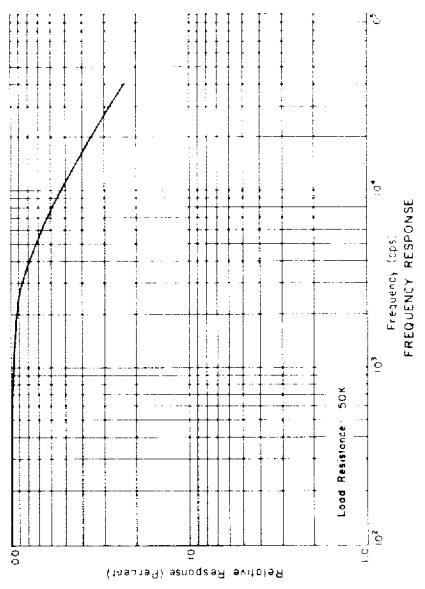
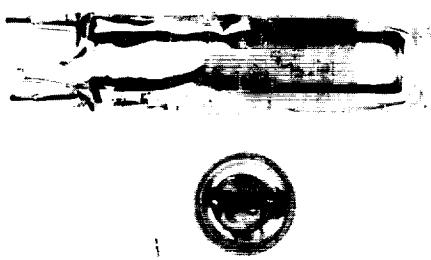
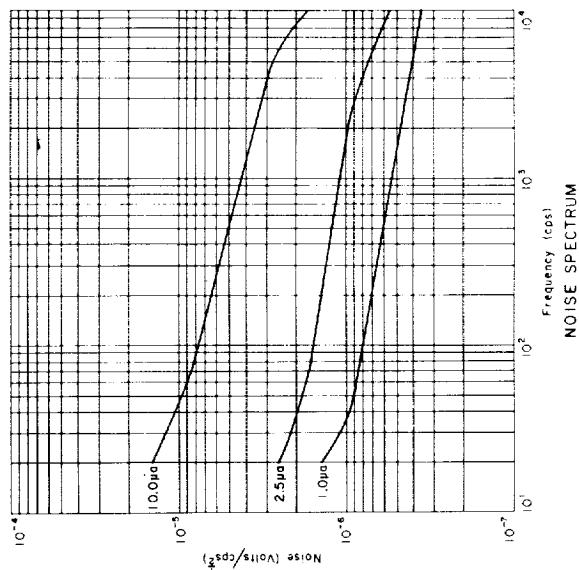
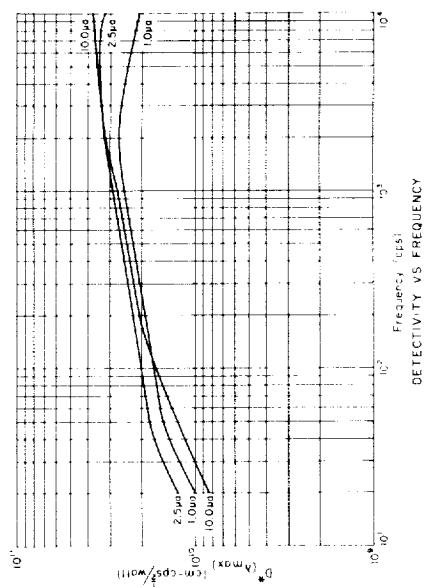
¹ Abbreviations: EK—Eastman Kodak Co.; SBRC—Santa Barbara Research Center; PC—Philco Corporation;
EL—Elipley Laboratory, Inc.; PE—Perkin Elmer Corporation.

† Blackbody response measured at 500, 10.





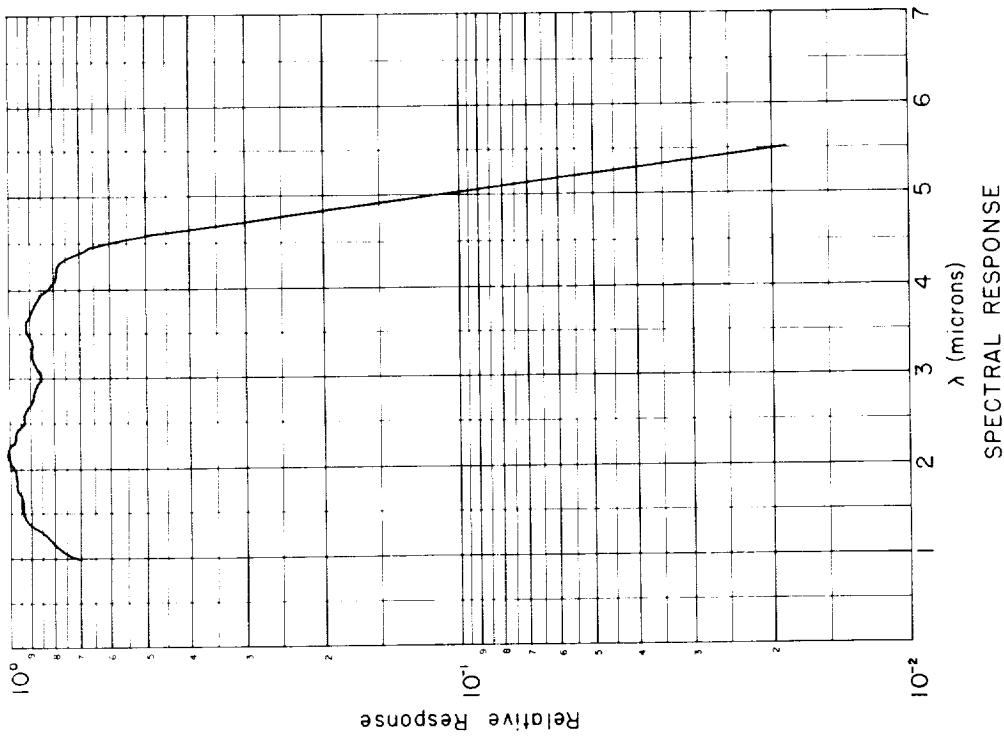
TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt) (500, 90)	0.0×10^{-4}	Blackbody temperature (°K)	500
H _N (watts/cps ^{1/2} .cm ²) (500, 90)	9.3×10^{-9}	Blackbody flux density (μwatts/cm ² , rms)	9.0
P _N (watts/cps ^{1/2}) (500, 90)	5.8×10^{-11}	Chopping frequency (cps)	90
D* (cm·cps ^{1/2} /watt) (500, 90)	1.4×10^{-9}	Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
Responsive time constant (μsec)	1.6	Cell temperature (°K)	19.3
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{max}}}{R_{bb}}$	9.3	Cell current for 90-cps data (μa)	1.5
Peak wavelength (μ)	2.0	Cell current for D* mm (μa)	5.0
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	1.0^{-4}	Load resistance (ohms)	5.0×10^6
D* _{trim} (cm·cps ^{1/2} /watt)	4.1×10^{-10}	Transformer	---
<u>CELL DESCRIPTION</u>		Relative humidity (%)	15
Type	PbSe (n-type)	Responsive plane (from window)	---
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.018×0.166	Ambient temperature (°C)	24
Area (cm ²)	3.0×10^{-5}	Ambient radiation on detector	297 K only
Dark resistance (ohms)	0.7×10^{10}		
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---		
Field of view	---		
Window material	Sapphire		



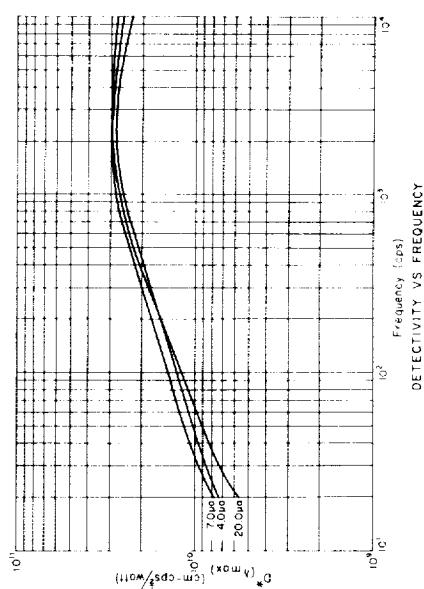
Eastman Kodak Co., Cell J621-30, PbSe
DATA SHEET NO. 734-A—January 1962

TEST RESULTS

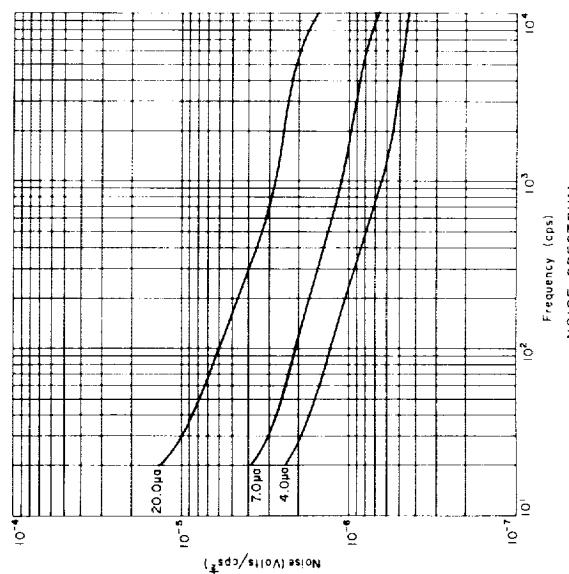
<u>CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT</u>	
R (volts/watt) (500, 90)	4.0×10^{-4}
H_N (watts/cps \cdot cm 2) (500, 90)	5.0×10^{-9}
F_N (watts/cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}$) (500, 90)	5.7×10^{-11}
D* (cm \cdot cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}$ /watt) (500, 90)	2.1×10^{-9}
Responsive time constant (usec)	28
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{max}}}{R_{bb}}$	4.1
Peak wavelength (μ)	2.2
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	10^{-4}
D* mm (cm \cdot cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}$ /watt)	3.8×10^{-10}
<u>CELL DESCRIPTION</u>	
Type	PbSe (8142)
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.078×0.116
Area (cm 2)	8.5×10^{-5}
Dark resistance (ohms)	4.1×10^6
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---
Field of view	---
Window material	Sapphire



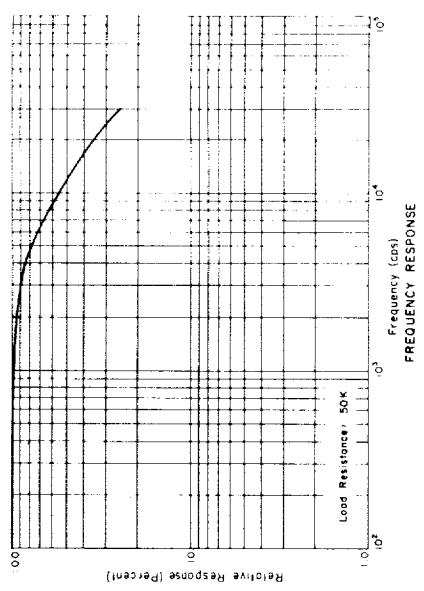
Eastman Kodak Co., Cell J621-30, PbSe
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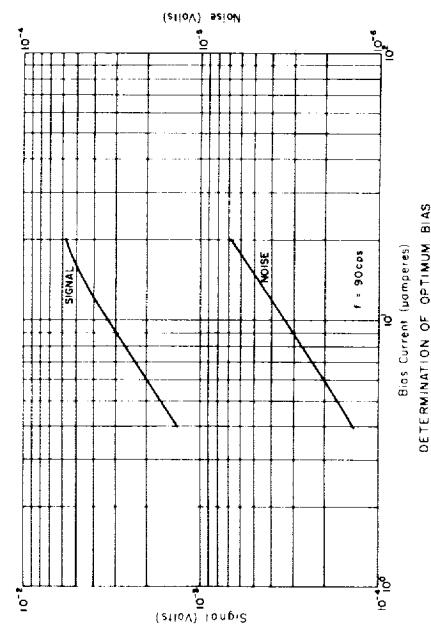
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



NOISE SPECTRUM



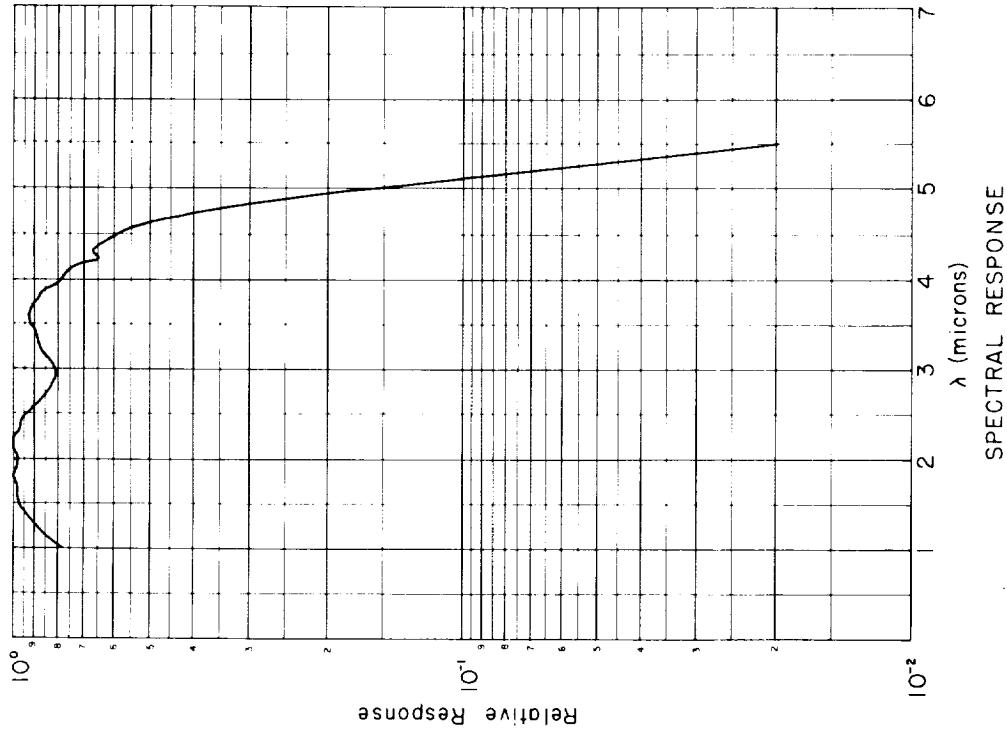
FREQUENCY RESPONSE



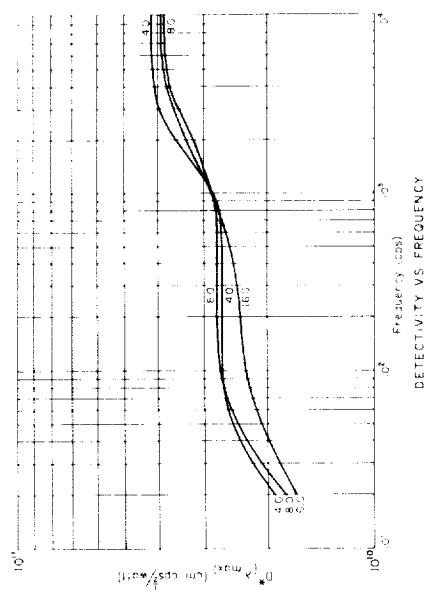
DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM BIAS

Eastman Kodak Co., Cell J621-48, PbSe
DATA SHEET NO. 735-A—January 1962

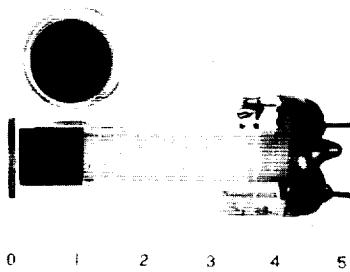
TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt)	4.1×10^{-4}	Blackbody temperature	500 ("K)
(500, 90)		Blackbody flux density	9.0 (μ watts/cm ² , rms)
H_N (watts/cps ^{1/2} .cm ²)	5.8×10^{-9}	Chopping frequency	90 (cps)
(500, 90)		Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
P_N (watts/cps ^{1/2})	5.6×10^{-11}	Cell temperature ("K)	197
(500, 90)		Cell current for	
D^* (cm.cps ^{1/2} /watt)	1.4×10^{-9}	90-cps data (μ A)	7.0
(500, 90)		Cell current for	20.0
Responsive time constant (usec)	2.6	D^* (μ A)	
		Load resistance (ohms)	2.5×10^6
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{max}}}{R_{bb}}$	9.1	Transformer	---
		Relative humidity (%)	16
Peak wavelength (μ)	2.2	Responsive plane (from window)	---
		Ambient temperature	24 ("C)
Peak detective modulation frequency (cps)	4×10^3	Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.038×0.168
		Area (cm ²)	6.3×10^{-3}
D^*_{mm} (cm.cps ^{1/2} /watt)	2.8×10^{10}	Dark resistance (ohms)	1.64×10^6
		Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---
<u>CELL DESCRIPTION</u>			
Type	PbSc (evap.)	Field of view	---
		Window material	Sapphire



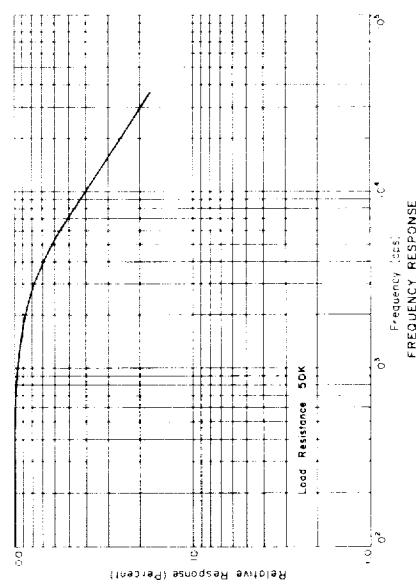
Eastman Kodak Co., Cell 1621-48, PbSc
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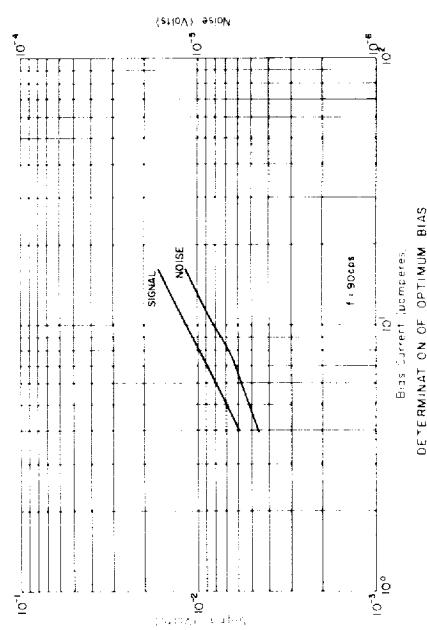
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



0 1 2 3 4 5

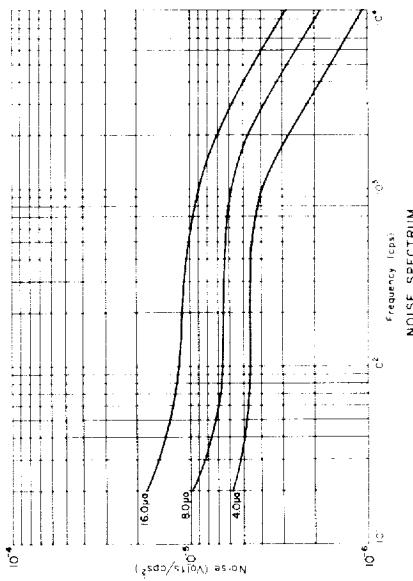


FREQUENCY RESPONSE



Bias Current (amperes)

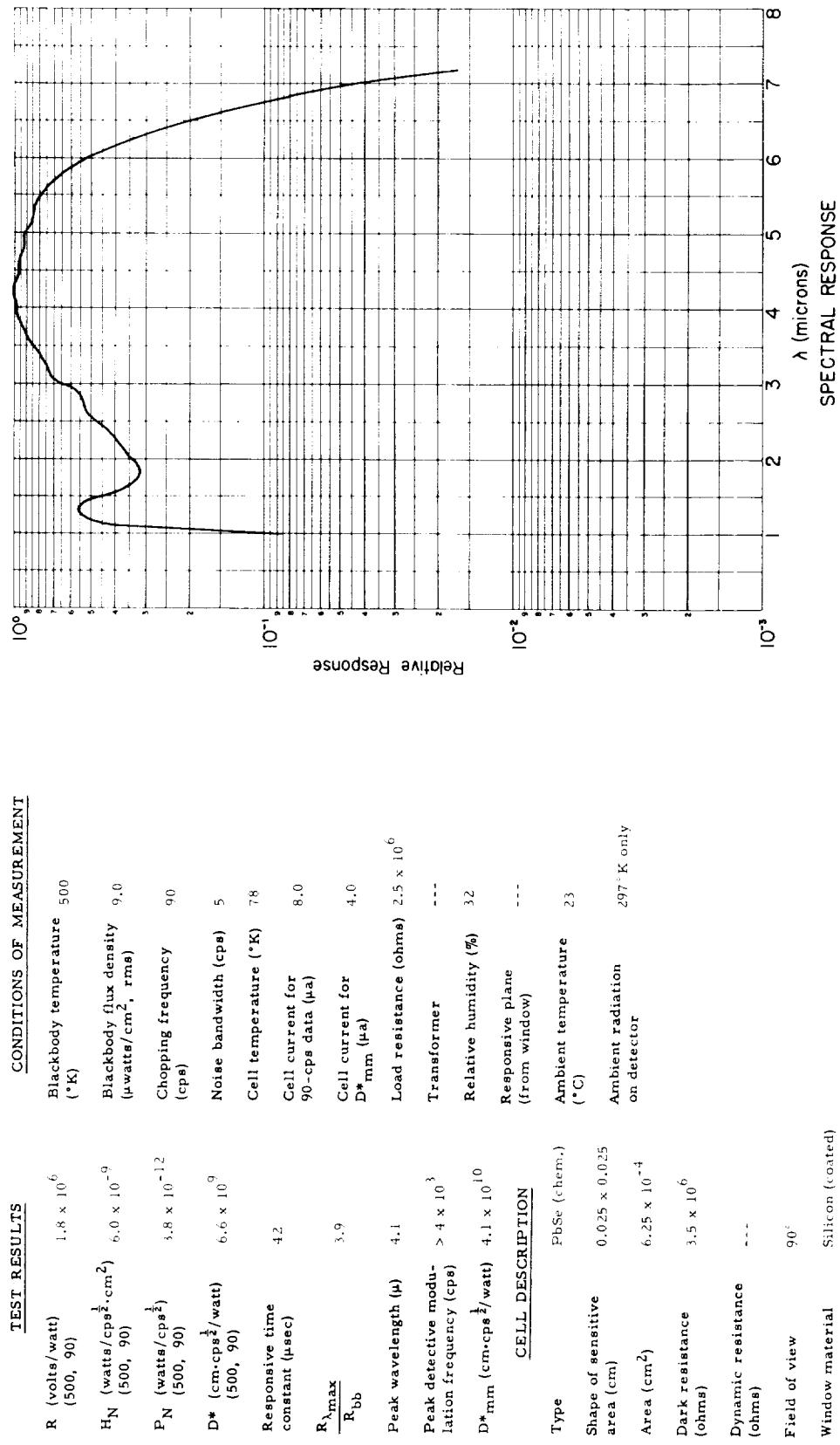
DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM BIAS



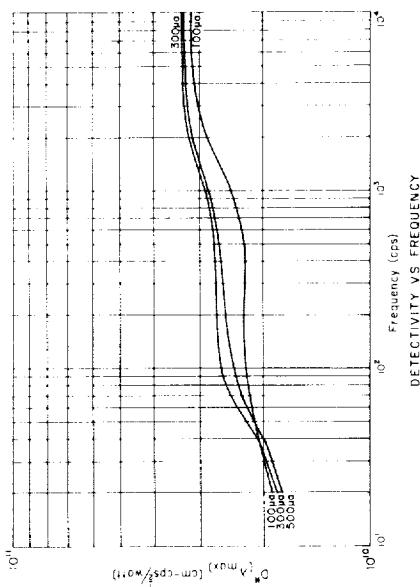
NOISE SPECTRUM

Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell JW1278A-36, PbSe

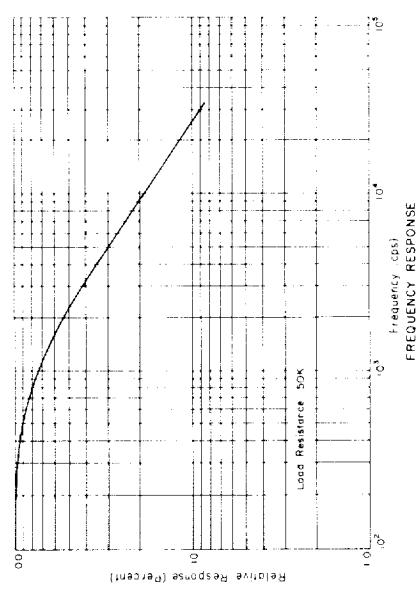
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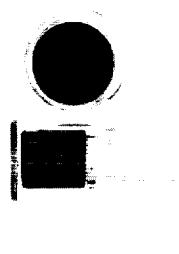
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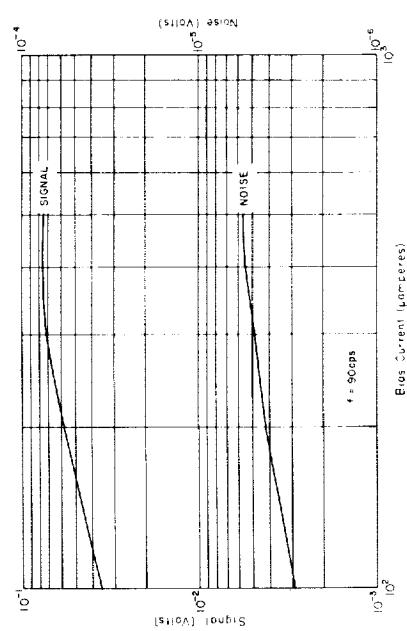
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



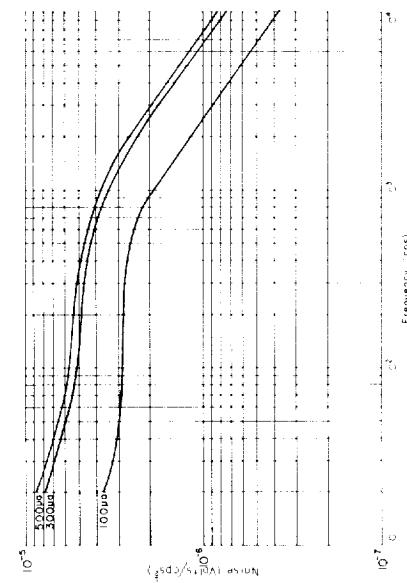
FREQUENCY RESPONSE



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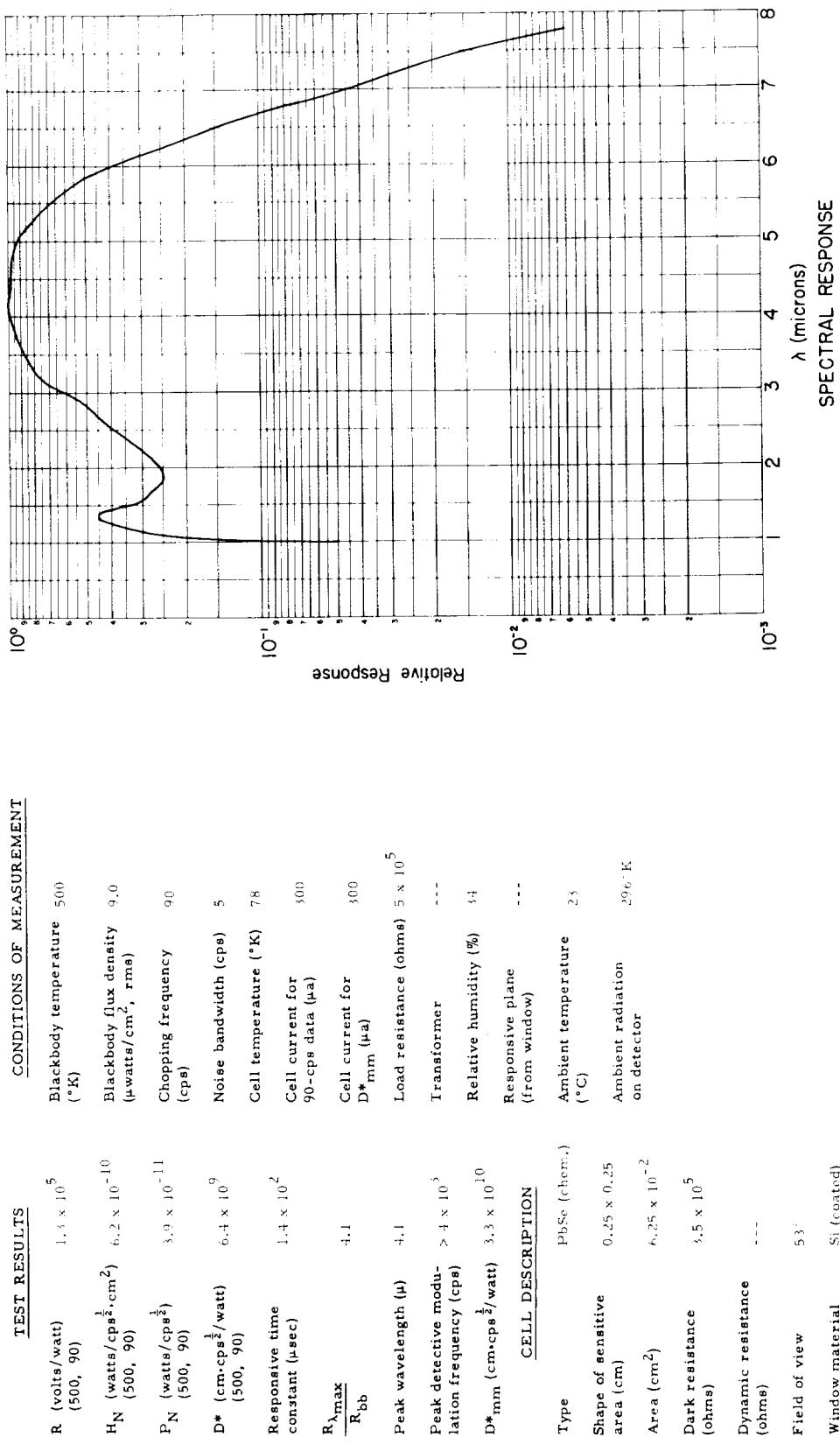
DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM BIAS



NOISE SPECTRUM

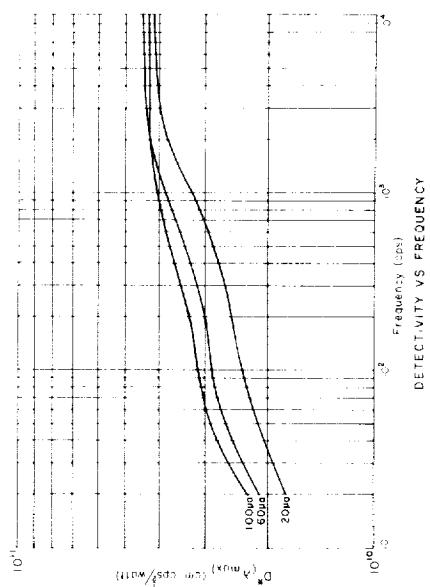
Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell JW1295-7, PbSe

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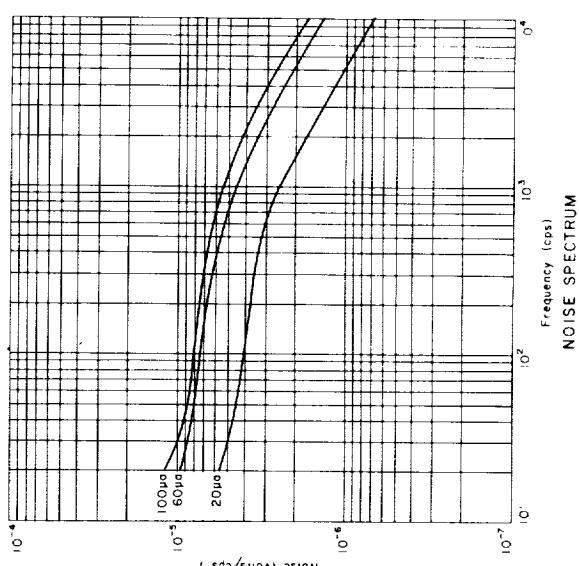


Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell JW1295-7, PbSe

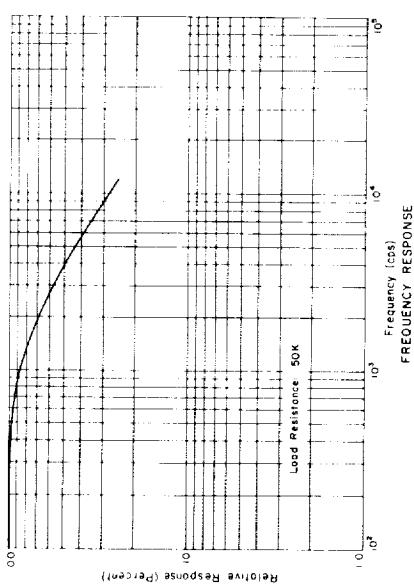
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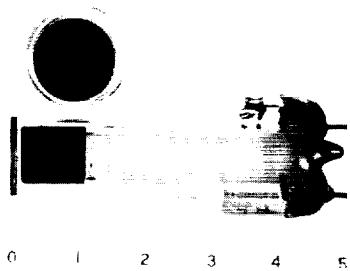
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



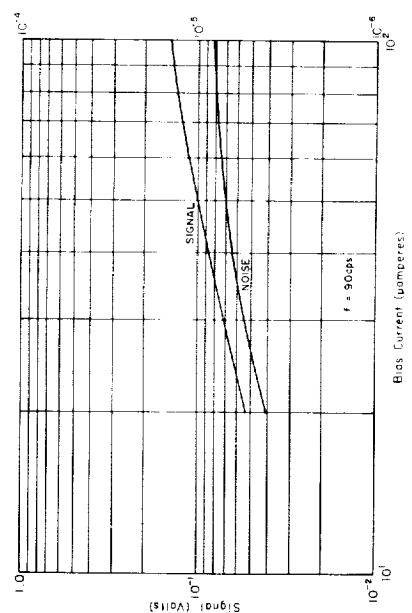
NOISE SPECTRUM



FREQUENCY RESPONSE



0 1 2 3 4 5



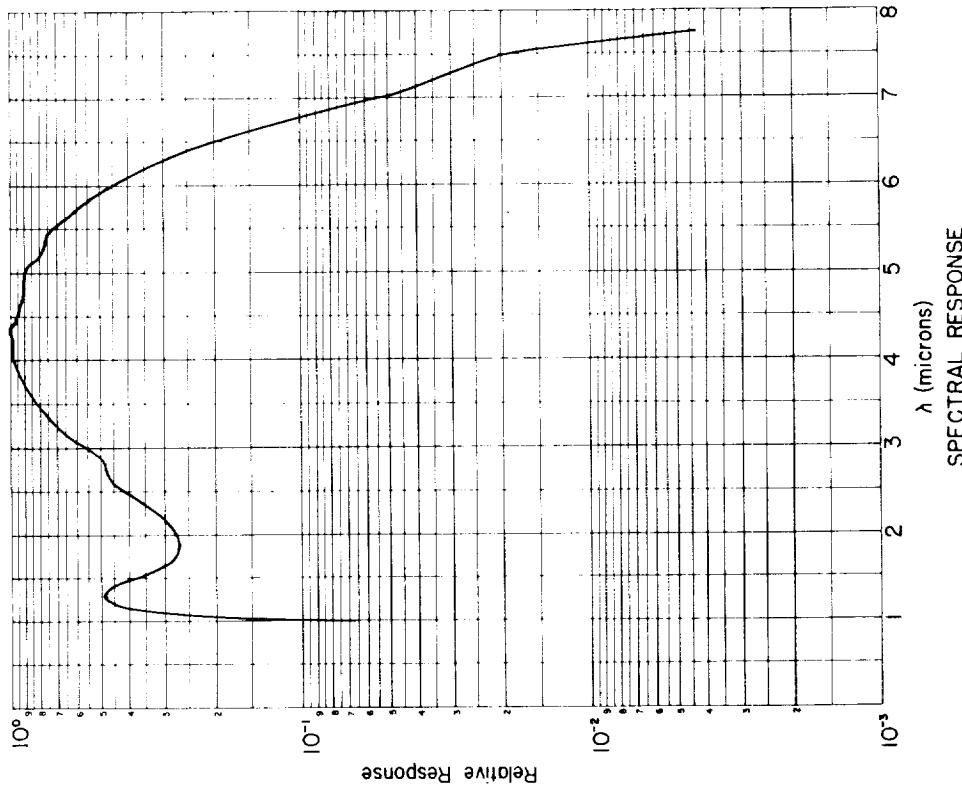
DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM BIAS

Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell 4002-5-10

DATA SHEET NO. 738-A—April 1962

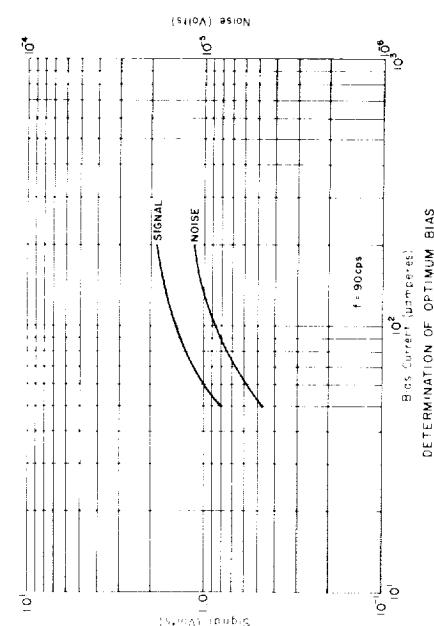
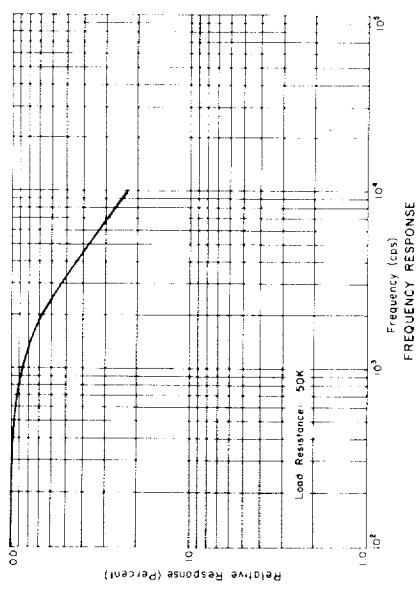
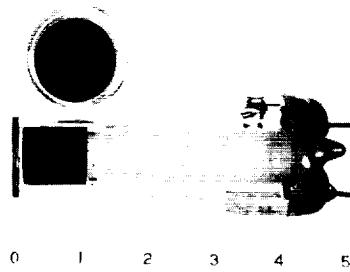
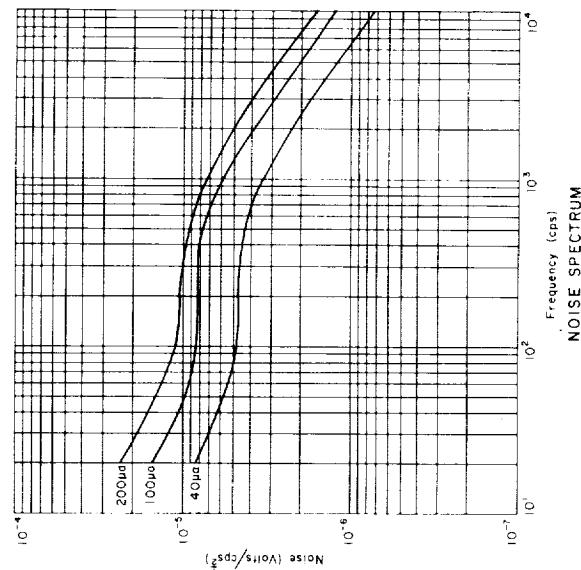
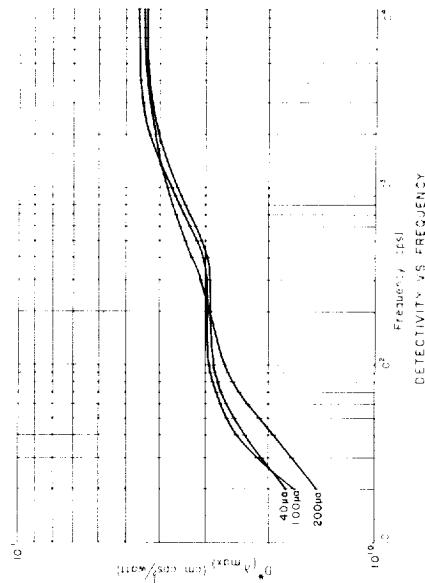
TEST RESULTS

TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt)	2.4×10^5	Blackbody temperature	500 (°K)
(500, 90)		Blackbody flux density	5.4×10^{-10}
H _N (watts/cm ² ·cm ²)	5.4×10^{-11}	(μwatts/cm ² , rms)	.0
(500, 90)		Chopping frequency	0.0
P _N (watts/cm ² ·cps ¹)	3.3×10^{-11}	(cps)	
(500, 90)		Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
D* (cm·cps ¹ /watt)	7.5×10^9	Cell temperature (°K)	78
(500, 90)		Cell current for	
Responsive time constant (μsec)	8.4	90-cps data (μA)	100
R _{kmax}	4.1	Cell current for	
R _{bb}		D* mm (μA)	1.0
Peak wavelength (μ)	4.5	Load resistance (ohms)	2.5×10^6
Peak detective modulation frequency (cps)	$> 1 \times 10^3$	Transformer	---
D* mm (cm·cps ¹ /watt)	4.5×10^{10}	Relative humidity (%)	17
CELL DESCRIPTION		Responsive plane (from window)	
Type	PSSe (therm.)	Ambient temperature (°C)	24
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.25×0.25	Ambient radiation on detector	297 K
Area (cm ²)	0.25×10^{-2}		
Dark resistance (ohms)	2.4×10^6		
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---		
Field of view	5°		
Window material	Silicon		

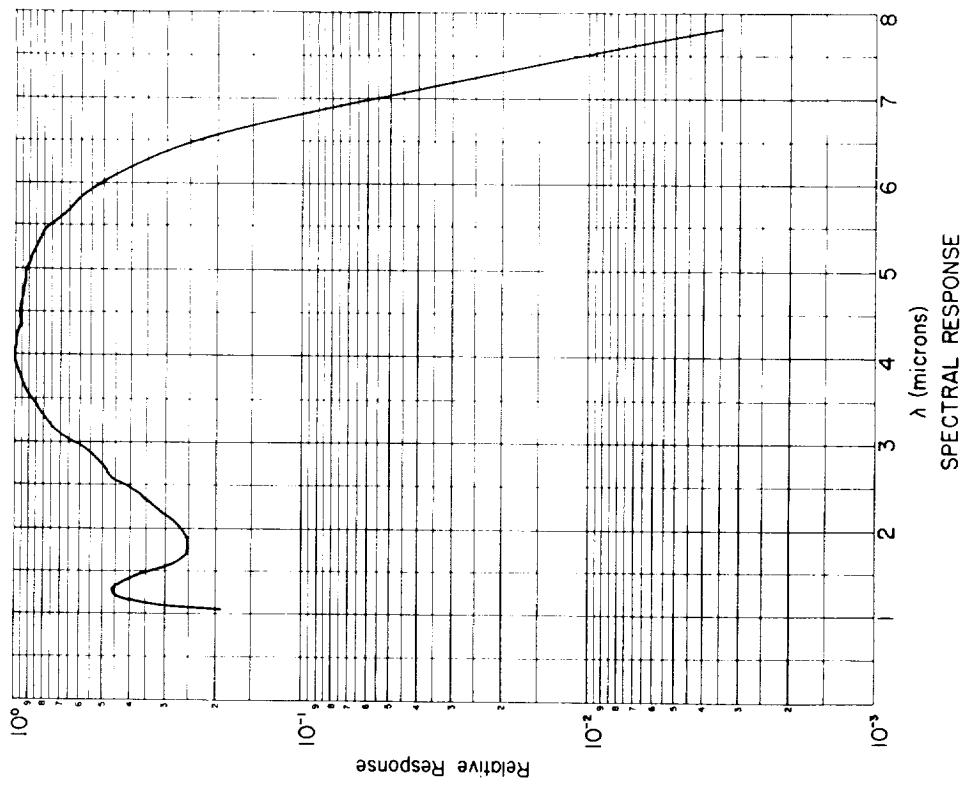


SPECTRAL RESPONSE

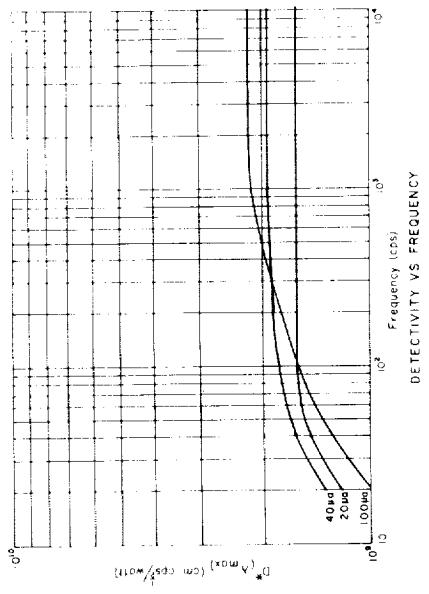
Santa Barbara Research Center, Celi 4002-5-10
DATA SHEET NO. 738-B—April 1962



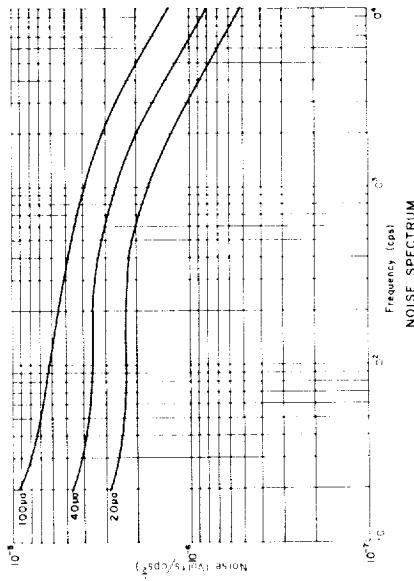
TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt) (500, 90)	2.5×10^5	Blackbody temperature (°K)	500
H_N (watts/ $\text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \text{cm}^2$) (500, 90)	5.5×10^{-10}	Blackbody flux density ($\mu\text{watts}/\text{cm}^2, \text{rms}$)	9.0
P_N (watts/ $\text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}$) (500, 90)	3.4×10^{-11}	Chopping frequency (cps)	9.0
D^* ($\text{cm} \cdot \text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}/\text{watt}$) (500, 90)	7.3×10^{-9}	Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
Responsive time constant (μsec)	85	Cell temperature (°K)	7.8
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{\text{max}}}}{R_{bb}}$	3.9	Cell current for 90-cps data (μa)	100
Peak wavelength (μ)	4.0	Cell current for D^* mm (μa)	100
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	$> 4.0 \times 10^3$	Load resistance (ohms)	1.0×10^6
$D^* \text{ mm}$ ($\text{cm} \cdot \text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}/\text{watt}$)	4.5×10^{10}	Transformer	---
Type	PbSe (chem.)	Relative humidity (%)	36
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.25×0.25	Responsive plane (from window)	---
Area (cm 2)	6.25×10^{-2}	Ambient temperature (°C)	24
Dark resistance (ohms)	2.0×10^6	Ambient radiation on detector	297 K
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---		
Field of view	53°		
Window material	Silicon		



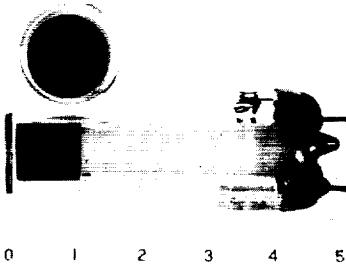
Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell 4002-5-13
DATA SHEET NO. 739-B—April 1962



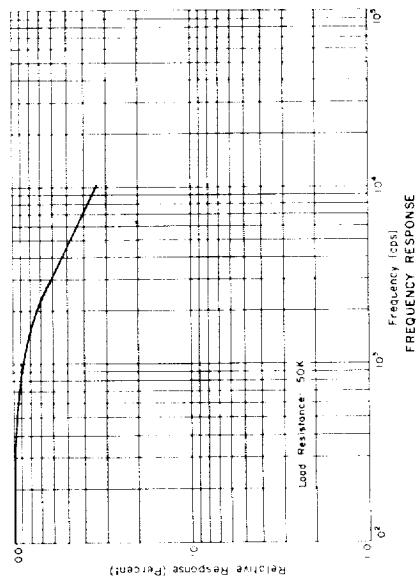
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



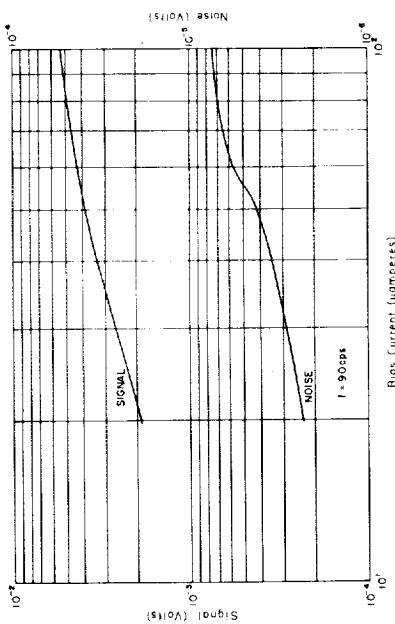
NOISE SPECTRUM



0 1 2 3 4 5



FREQUENCY RESPONSE

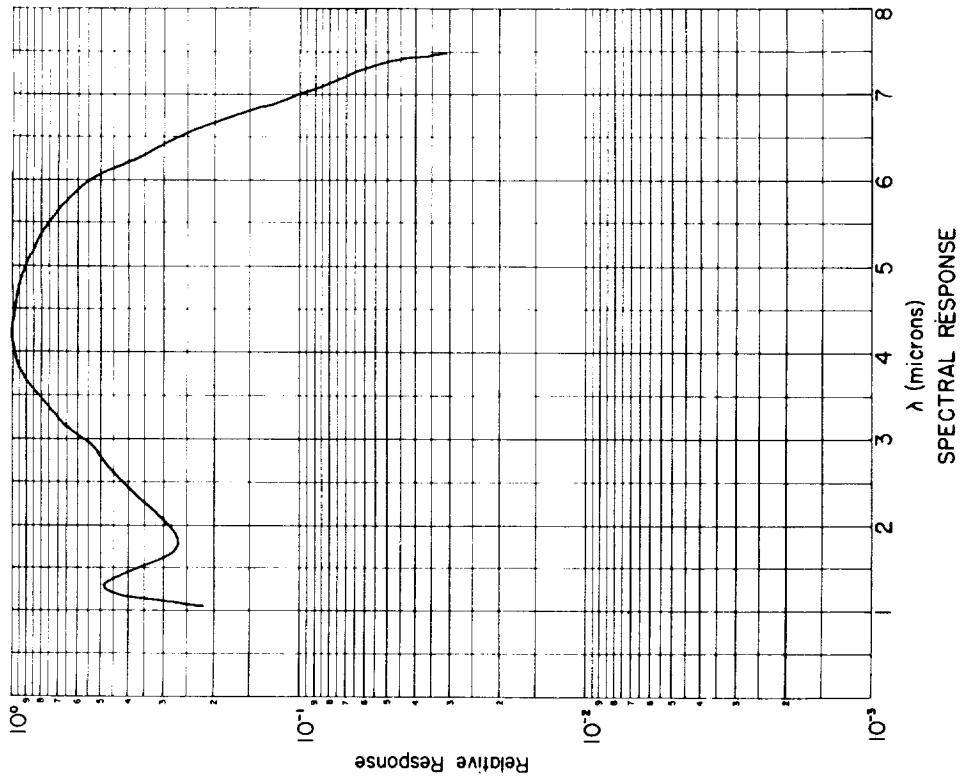


DETERMINATION OF OPTIMUM BIAS

Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell 4002-11-31

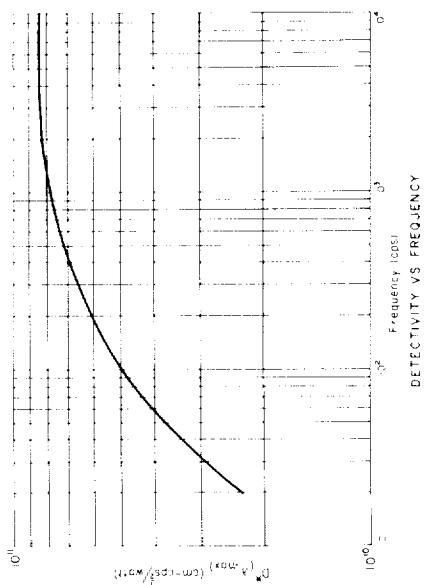
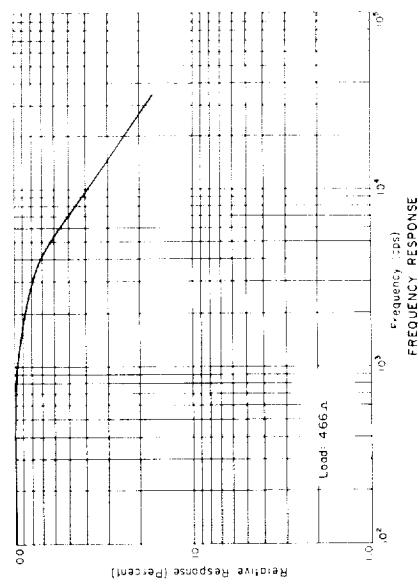
DATA SHEET NO. 740-A—April 1962

TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt) (500, 90)	5.8×10^5	Blackbody temperature (°K)	500
H_N (watts/cps $^{1/2}$.cm 2) (500, 90)	9.7×10^{-9}	Blackbody flux density (μ watts/cm 2 , rms)	9.0
P_N (watts/cps $^{1/2}$) (500, 90)	6.0×10^{-12}	Chopping frequency (cps)	90
D^* (cm.cps $^{1/2}$ /watt) (500, 90)	4.2×10^9	Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
Responsive time constant (μ sec)	7.2	Cell temperature (°K)	78
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{\text{max}}}}{R_{bb}}$	4.4	Cell current for 90-cps data (μ a)	40
Peak wavelength (μ)	4.3	Cell current for D^* mm (na)	100
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	$> 2 \times 10^3$	Load resistance (ohms)	5.0×10^5
D^*_{mm} (cm.cps $^{1/2}$ /watt)	2.1×10^{10}	Transformer	---
<u>CELL DESCRIPTION</u>		Relative humidity (%)	35
Type	PbSe (chem.)	Responsive plane (from window)	---
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.025 x 0.025	Ambient temperature (°C)	24
Area (cm 2)	6.25×10^{-4}	Ambient radiation on detector	297 K
Dark resistance (ohms)	3.8×10^5	Dynamic resistance (ohms)	---
Field of view	90°	Window material	Silicon

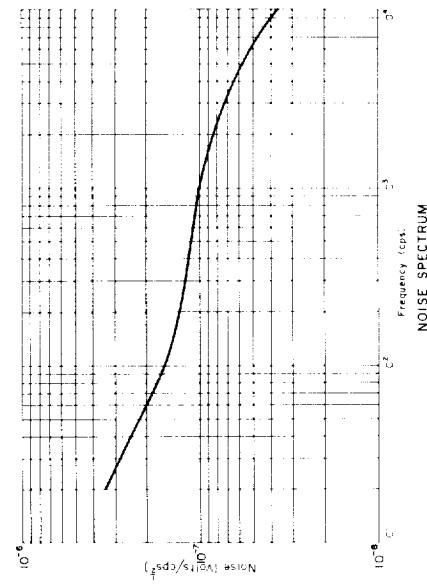


Santa Barbara Research Center, Cell 4002-11-31

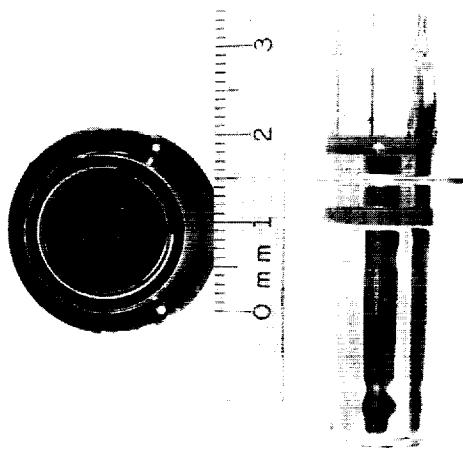
DATA SHEET NO. 740-B—April 1962



DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



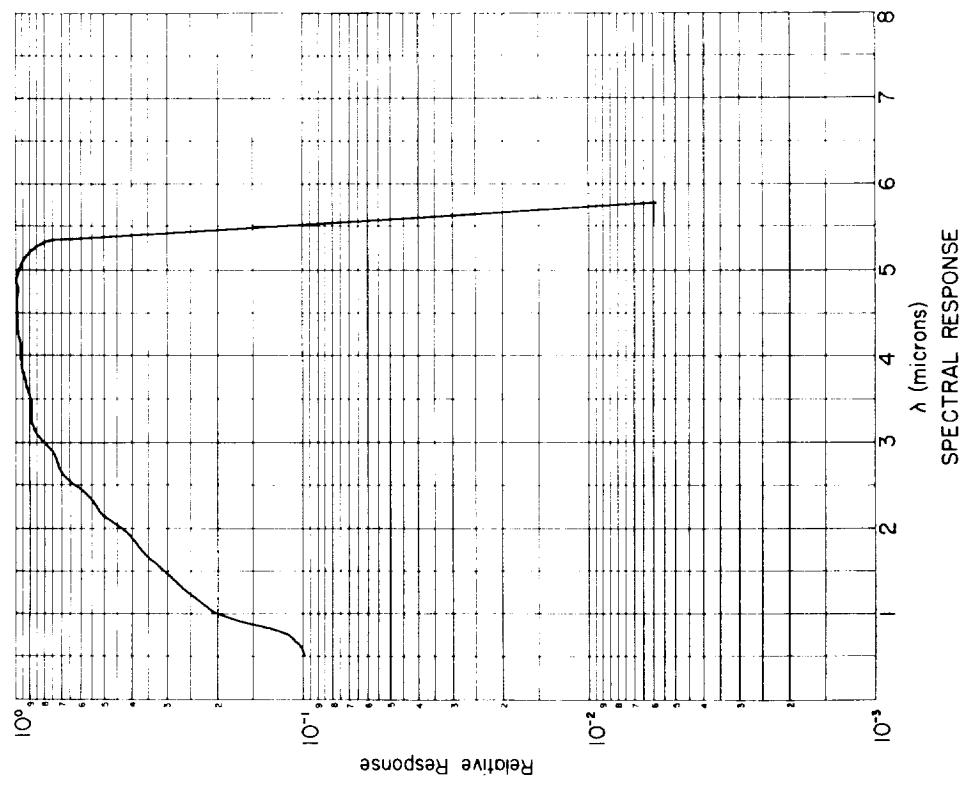
NOISE SPECTRUM



Philco Corporation Cell, InSb
DATA SHEET NO. 741-A—March 1962

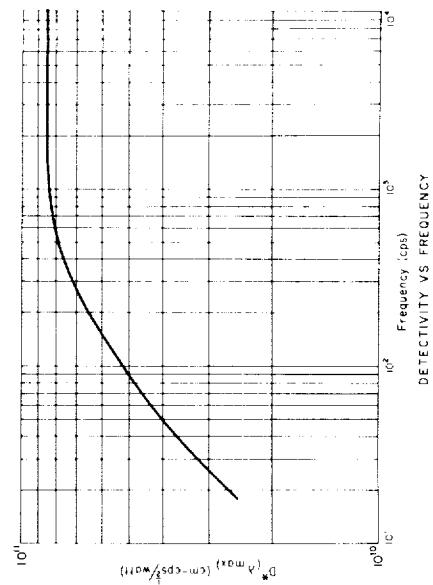
TEST RESULTS

TEST RESULTS		CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT	
R (volts/watt) (500, 90)	6.3×10^3	Blackbody temperature (°K)	500
H_N (watts/cm 2 .cm 2) (500, 90)	4.7×10^{-10}	Blackbody flux density (watts/cm 2 , rms)	9.0
P_N (watts/cps $^{1/2}$) (500, 90)	2.6×10^{-11}	Chopping frequency (cps)	90
D^* (cm.cps $^{1/2}$ /watt) (500, 90)	9.1×10^{-9}	Noise bandwidth (cps)	5
Responsive time constant (μsec)	3.9	Cell temperature (°K)	78
$\frac{R\lambda_{max}}{R_{bb}}$	5.3	Cell current for 90-cps data (μA)	---
Peak wavelength (μ)	4.8	Cell current for D^* mm (μA)	---
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	$> 10^3$	Load resistance (ohms)	---
D^*_{mm} (cm.cps $^{1/2}$ /watt)	8.3×10^{10}	Transformer	Geotorrer G-5 466-11 prints.
CELL DESCRIPTION		---	
Type	InSb (crystal)	Ambient temperature (°C)	23
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.22 x 0.25	Ambient radiation on detector	23 m K or less
Area (cm 2)	5.5×10^{-2}		
Dark resistance (ohms)	---		
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	1.5×10^4		
Field of view	---		
Window material	Sapphire		

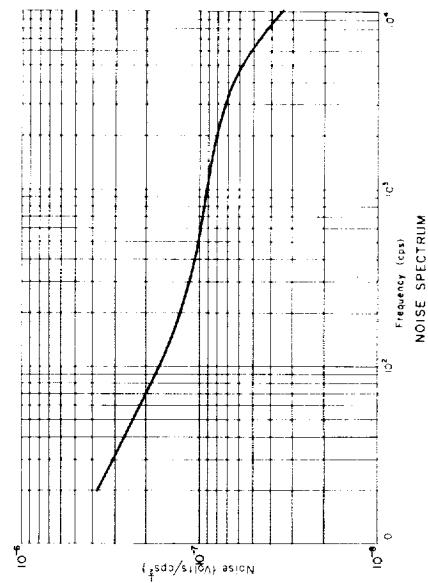


Philco Corporation Cell, InSb

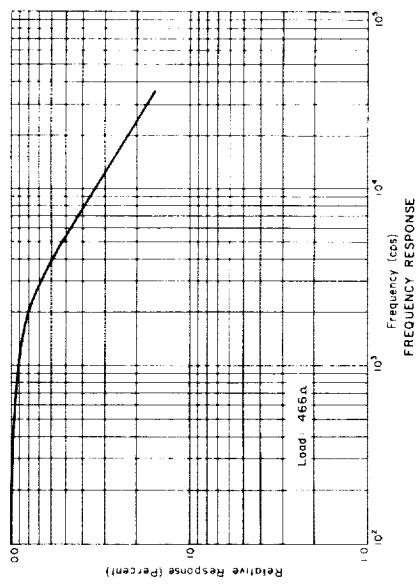
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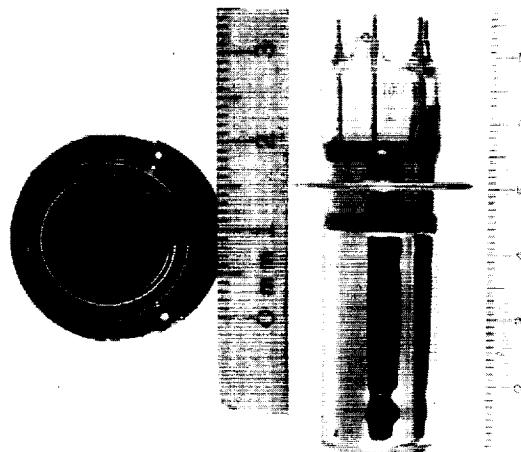
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



NOISE SPECTRUM



FREQUENCY RESPONSE



Philco Corporation Cell, InSb
DATA SHEET NO. 742-A—March 1962

TEST RESULTS

R (volts/watt) (500, 90) 8.4×10^{-3}

H_N (watts/ $\text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \text{cm}^2$) (500, 90) 5.7×10^{-10}

P_N (watts/ $\text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}$) (500, 90) 2.0×10^{-11}

D^* ($\text{cm} \cdot \text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}/\text{watt}$) (500, 90) 9.3×10^9

Responsive time constant (μsec) 5.7

$\frac{R_{\lambda_{\text{max}}}}{R_{\text{bb}}}$ 5.3

Peak wavelength (μ) 4.8

Peak detective modulation frequency (cps) $> 10^3$

$D^* \text{ mm}$ ($\text{cm} \cdot \text{cps}^{\frac{1}{2}}/\text{watt}$) 8.3×10^{10}

CELL DESCRIPTION

Type InSb (crystal)

Shape of sensitive area (cm) 0.14 \times 0.25

Area (cm^2) 3.5×10^{-2}

Dark resistance (ohms) \dots

Dynamic resistance (ohms) 1.5×10^4

Field of view \dots

Window material Sapphire

CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT

Blackbody temperature ($^{\circ}\text{K}$) 500

Blackbody flux density ($\mu\text{watts}/\text{cm}^2$, rms) 9.0

Chopping frequency (cps) 90

Noise bandwidth (cps) 5

Cell temperature ($^{\circ}\text{K}$) 78

Cell current for 90-cps data (μA) \dots

Cell current for $D^* \text{ mm}$ (μA) \dots

Load resistance (ohms) \dots

Transformer: Geotformer G-5
466- Ω prim., 2 sec.

Relative humidity (%) 34

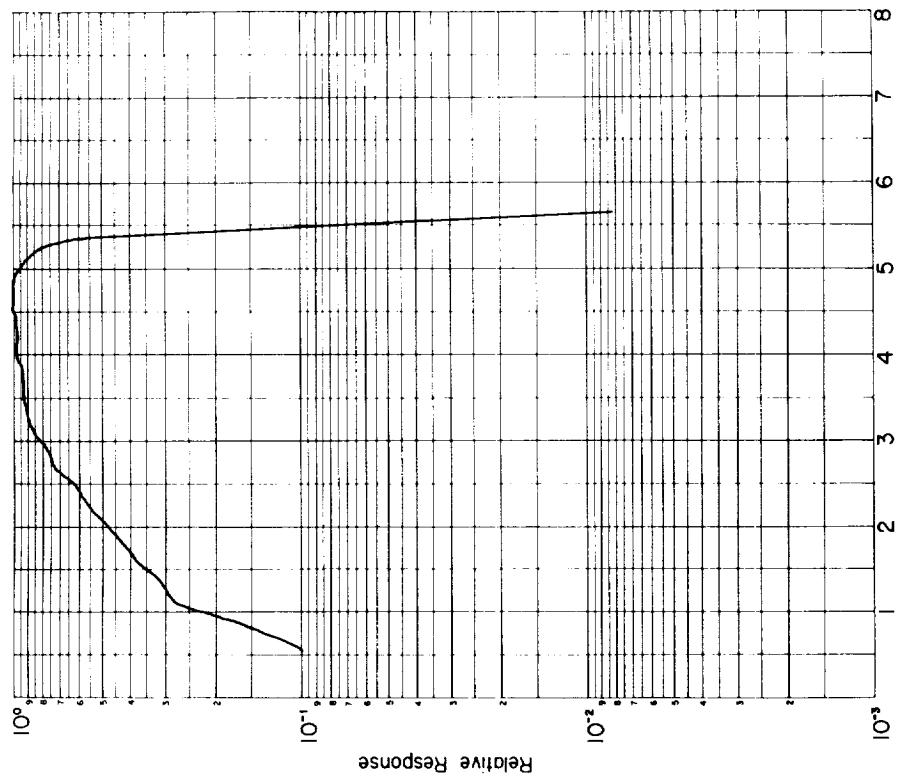
Responsive plane (from window) \dots

Ambient temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) 23

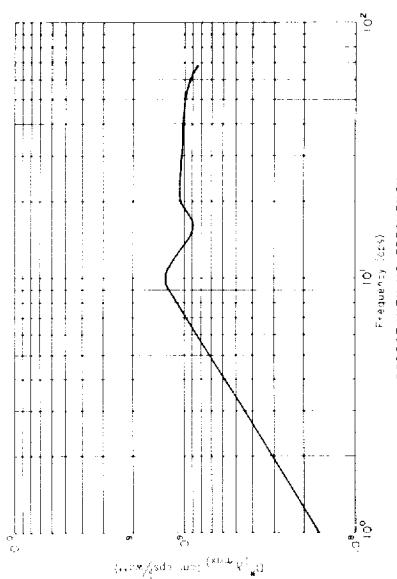
Ambient radiation on detector 290 K only

λ (microns) 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

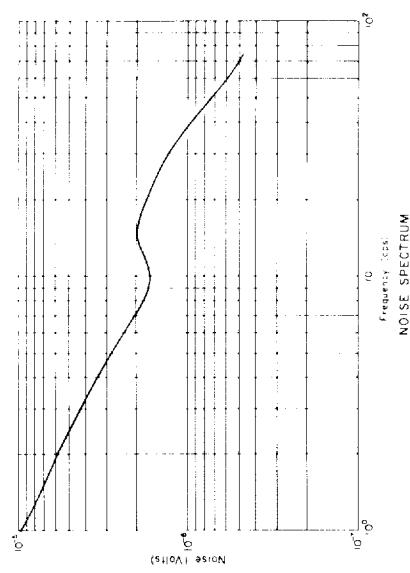
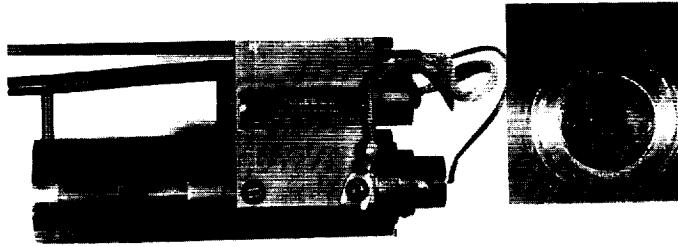
SPECTRAL RESPONSE



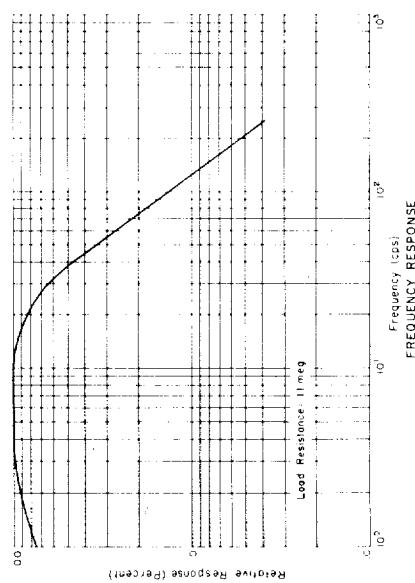
Philco Corporation Cell, InSb
DATA SHEET NO. 742-B—March 1962



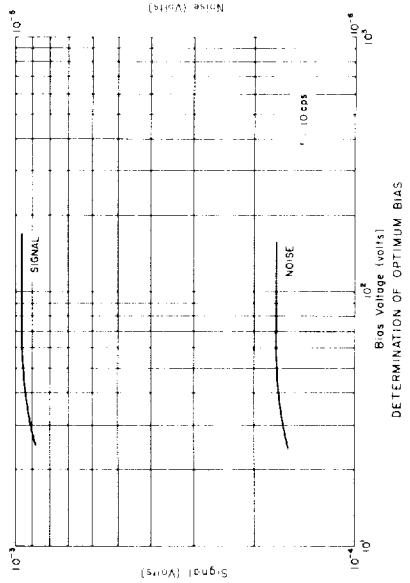
Detectivity vs Frequency



Noise Spectrum



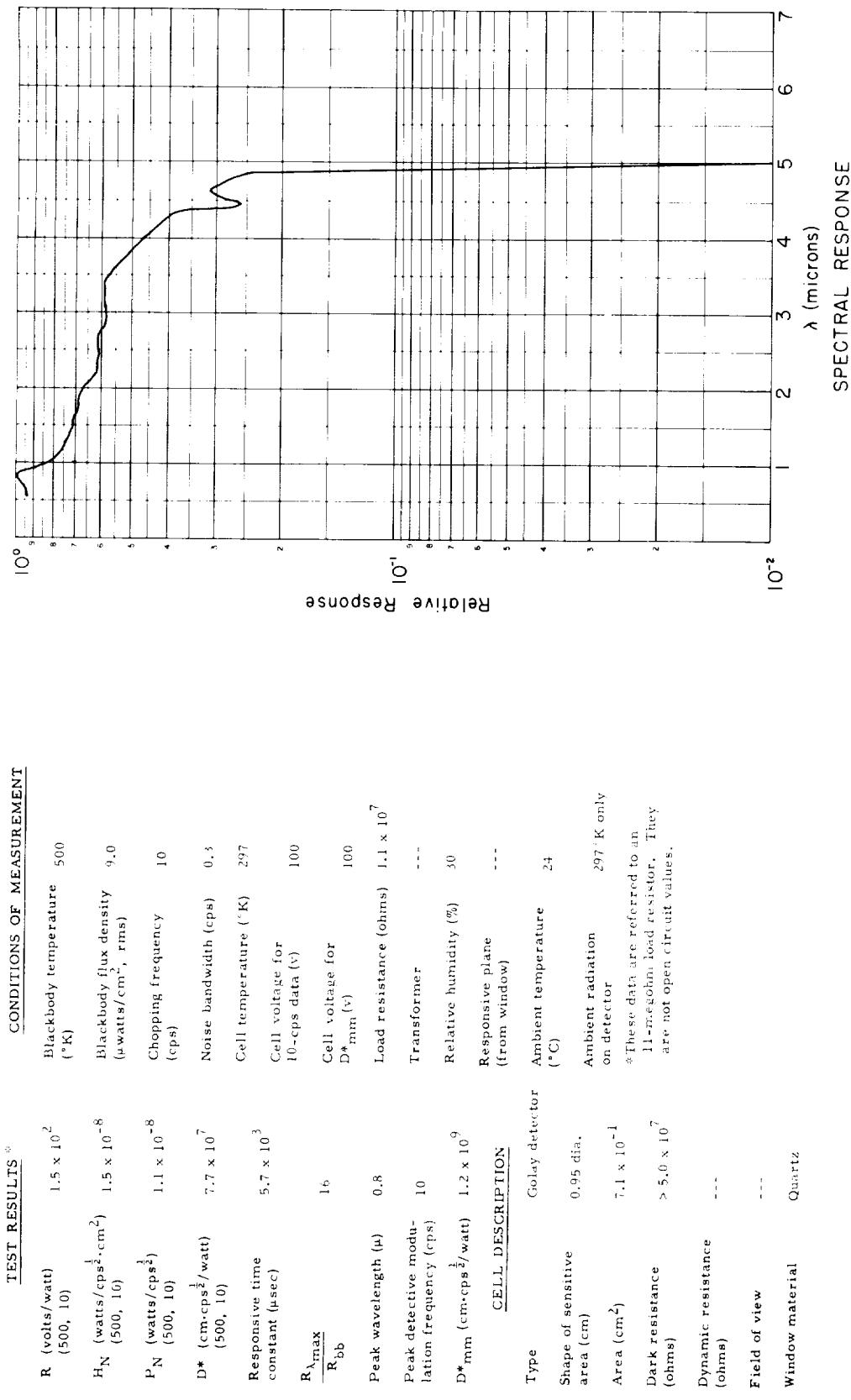
Frequency Response



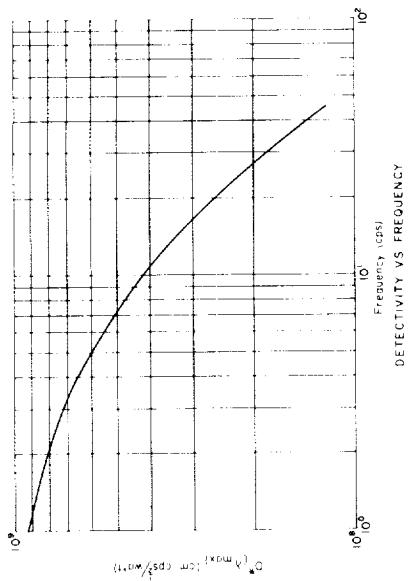
Sensitivity Contour

Eppley Laboratory, Inc., Cell 786, Golay det.

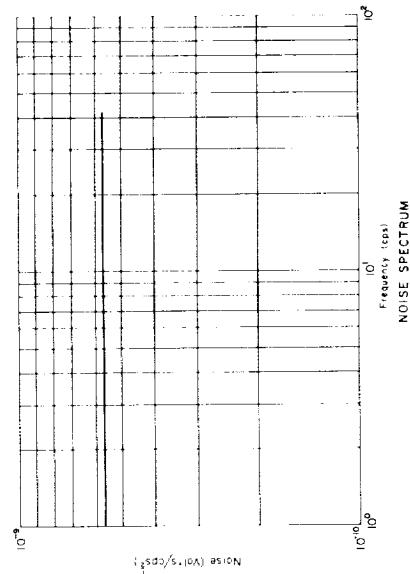
DATA SHEET NO. 743-A—March 1962



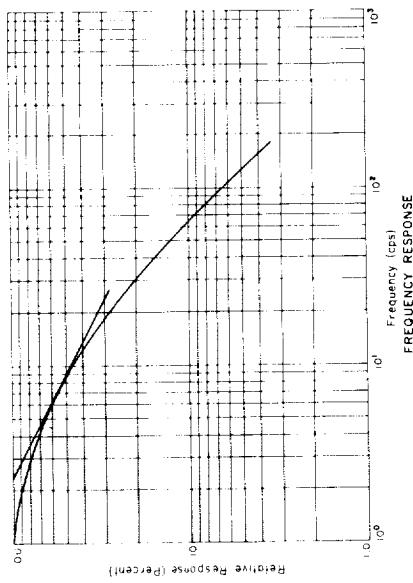
Eppley Laboratory, Inc., Cell 786, Golay det.
DATA SHEET NO. 743-B—March 1962



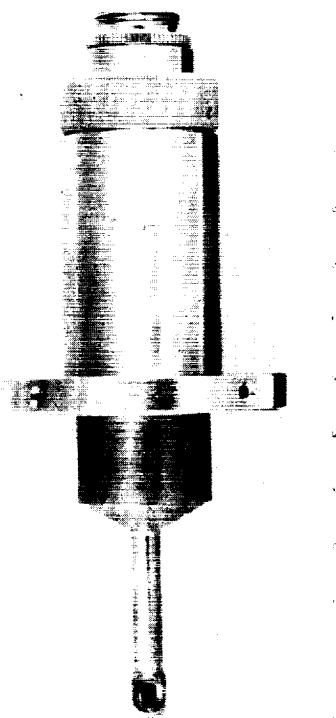
DETECTIVITY VS FREQUENCY



NOISE SPECTRUM



FREQUENCY RESPONSE



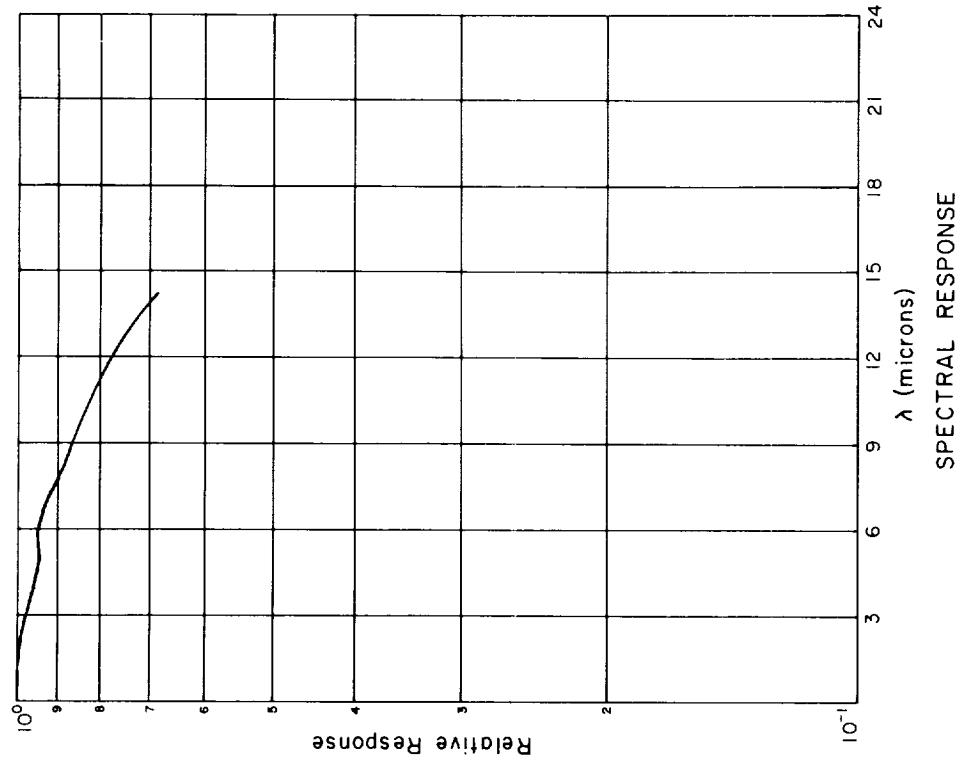
Perkin Elmer Corp., Cell 9770, Thermocouple

DATA SHEET NO. 744-A—April 1962

TEST RESULTS

<u>TEST RESULTS</u>		<u>CONDITIONS OF MEASUREMENT</u>	
R (volts/watt) (500, 10)	3.0	Blackbody temperature (°K)	500
H_N (watts/cps ^{1/2} .cm ²) (500, 10)	4.5×10^{-8}	Blackbody flux density (μwatts/cm ² , rms)	9.0
P_N (watts/cps ^{1/2}) (500, 10)	1.8×10^{-10}	Chopping frequency (cps)	10
D^* (cm·cps ^{1/2} /watt) (500, 10)	3.5×10^8	Noise bandwidth (cps)	0.3
Responsive time constant (μsec)	1.9×10^4	Cell temperature (°K)	297
$\frac{R_{\lambda_{max}}}{R_{bb}}$	1.2	Cell current for 10-cps data (μa)	---
Peak wavelength (μ)	1.0	Cell current for D^* mm (μa)	---
Peak detective modu- lation frequency (cps)	1.0	Load resistance (ohms)	---
D^* mm (cm·cps ^{1/2} /watt)	9.1×10^8	Transformer	Triad, G95046 10 Ω; 1 mev
<u>CELL DESCRIPTION</u>		Relative humidity (%)	
Type	Thermocouple	Responsive plane (from window)	30
Shape of sensitive area (cm)	0.02 × 0.2	Ambient temperature (°C)	24
Area (cm ²)	4×10^{-3}	Ambient radiation on detector	$297^\circ K$ only
Dark resistance (ohms)	---		
Dynamic resistance (ohms)	16		
Field of view	---		
Window material	CsI		

29



Perkin Elmer Corp., Cell 9770, Thermocouple

DATA SHEET NO. 744-B—April 1962

APPENDIX
DEFINITIONS OF SYMBOLS AND TERMS

A = adopted sensitive area of the detector in cm^2

f = modulation frequency of the radiation incident on the detector

Δf = frequency bandwidth of the electrical measuring system
in cps

J = rms value of the fundamental component of the radiant
energy flux density, in watts/ cm^2

N = rms noise voltage

R_0 = maximum response

R_ω = response as a function of $\omega = 2\pi f$

$\frac{R_{\lambda_{\max}}}{R_{bb}}$ = ratio of the responsivity at the peak wavelength to
the responsivity to blackbody radiation

V = rms value of the fundamental component of the signal voltage
as measured with the entire surface of the detector exposed

T, responsive time constant. When the photon-excited carriers in the semiconductor have a simple decay mechanism, the response to a sinusoidal varying signal may be given by

$$R_\omega/R_0 = (1 + \omega^2 T^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

The responsive time constant (T) is calculated from the frequency response. It will be noted that the load resistance used in each case is given on the frequency response curve.

R. The responsivity (R) is defined as the ratio of the rms value of the fundamental component of the signal voltage to the rms value of the fundamental component of the incident radiation power:

$$R = V/JA$$

The units of R are volts/watt.

H_N . The noise equivalent irradiance (H_N) is defined as the minimum radiant flux density necessary to give a signal-to-noise ratio of 1 when the noise is normalized to unit bandwidth:

$$H_N = JN/V \cdot \Delta f^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

The units of H_N are watts/cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}\cdot\text{cm}^2$.

P_N . The noise equivalent power (P_N) is defined as the minimum radiant flux necessary to give a signal-to-noise ratio of 1 when the noise is normalized to unit bandwidth:

$$P_N = JNA/V \cdot \Delta f^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

The units of P_N are watts/cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

D^* . D-star is defined¹ as the detectivity normalized to unit area and unit bandwidth. Detectivity is the signal-to-noise ratio produced with unit radiant flux incident on the detector:

$$D^* = A^{\frac{1}{2}}/P_N$$

The units of D^* are cm \cdot cps $^{\frac{1}{2}}$ /watt.

D_{mm}^* is defined as D-star at the peak wavelength, the optimum bias value, and the peak detective modulation frequency.

Calibration. The gain of the electrical system is calibrated by injecting a known voltage in series with the detector being tested. This is accomplished by means of a small resistor placed between the detector ground terminal and the system ground. Thus, the detector signal and noise voltages are referred to the detector terminals and to an infinite load impedance. The detector noise is corrected for amplifier noise.

¹R. Clark Jones, "Methods of Rating the Performance of Photoconductive Cells," Proceedings of IRIS, Vol. 2, No. 1, June 1957.

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Standard Photodetector Distribution List (258)

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